fuegos, and, if not, to go to Santiago, was:

insurgents at the place designated in the mem

SCHLEY's objections to the findings of

"Second-The majority of the Court have held

that the applicant should have endeavored to open communication with the insurgents at the place

tioned in said memorandum as being a place at which a camp of insurgents was located."

at the opinion stated in the foregoing paragraph without regard to the fact, which was proven by

SCRLEY only for use in connection with the in

at or being constructed in the vicinity of the en

by the order No. 6, dated May 18, 1808, and sent

Commodore SCHLEY by Admiral SAMPSON

trance to the harbor of Clenfuegos, as is attested

The order referred to was written at a

Sir: I inclose a copy of a memorandum from

"You will take steps to prevent the enemy from

continuing work on the new fortifications men-

tioned therein.

There is a rumor by way of Havana that the

Consequently SCHLEY'S arguments for reversing the finding of the court were that the "memorandum" did not specify

where a " camp of insurgents was located,

and that the memorandum was limited

in its application because the order accom-

panying it directed his special attention to

Is this remarkably kind and honey-

hearted weather to last? Is winter on its

last legs before it has got its second wind?

In fact, is there to be any winter? Not

if the prairie dog has mystical lore. There

are thirty of these prophets in Lincoln

Park, Chicago. For the first time in thir-

teen years-mark the fateful number-

they have roused them from their sleep in

midwinter and come out of their holes:

come out to eat instead of waiting for the

frost to come out, as their custom has been.

The superintendent of the park and the

guardian of the prophetic beasts swear

that the cold days are over and done. The

prairie dog doesn't take the trouble to

wake up for nothing. But is the prairie

dog trustworthy? He may have a genius

for weather, but has he the shrewdness

and cool judgment of the woodchuck? Keep

Who should turn up as chief speaker

at the Jackson Day banquet of the Cook

County Democracy but Col. JIM HAM

Lewis of Washington State and the world

He viewed "Our Threatening Destiny

future in despair," he cried. Our threat

see the electric lights turning pink as the

when aroused they may beat back the cunning

"Surely we will not forget that for similar treat

pink fire, Col. JIM HAM LEWIS is waking

Col. BILL PHELPS of Missouri is the most

crat now on view. The other day some-

body asked him who was his choice for

Senator in Congress in place of the Hon.

GEORGE GRAHAM VEST. * I am a good

been made. If we declare for sound money,

I am for WALLACE. If we reaffirm 16 to 1,

I shall be for CHAMP CLARK; if each man

is to make his own ratio, then I am for

STONE." It is likely enough that Col.

PHELPS was amusing himself with a little

sarcasm, but his words have the true old

Democratic epirit, now so rare. "I be-

lieve in the platform what is the platform?

Hurrah for the candidate who in thunder

An element not considered in the matter

of army increase is that of the commissions

Nearly two thousand of these were sent

to the President on Monday last for his

signature, the manual labor of affixing

which would be considerable if the com-

missions were on paper, but is greatly in

creased by the fact that they are on parch-

Prof. Mathema Andgus the Assesses fromt.

action appetent to the first of the control of the second to the first time. It appears that are the terminal two terms and the second two terms are those first time. It appears to the second the first of the second to the sec

countlymence ever right of eart, from early can tell to regarded the letter poet of the

getage and the increasing I am one respon-

tioned Part Louis Alleget & Margaria Two Continuous on Colleges

Phrotoiogical instruction to fire deric;

to Mean it captures I greatly

to Prot Lach

to the follow of the five do-

is the candidate?"

its vigils.

on your furs till the groundhog comes.

We submit this without comment.

Spanish squadron has put into Santiago. "W. T. Sampson."

"KEY WEST, Fla., May 19, 1898

time when the movement to Santiago had

said McCalla memorandum was sent to Commod

the overwhelming weight of testimony,

Third-The majority of the Court have arrived

designated in the memorandum of Comman McCalla when, in fact, there was no place m

The italies are ours.

not been determined on:

Commander McCALLA

certain forts.

the court are numbered Second and Third:

Spanish squadron by communicating

Commodore SCHLEY should have endeavored

May 23 to obtain information regarding the

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1902.

Subscriptions by Mall, Postpoid. MLY, per Month. , per Year. AILY AND SUNDAY, per Year. AILY AND SUNDAY, per Month Postage to foreign countries add THE SUN, New York City.

PARIS Klosque No. 12, near Grand Hotel, Klosque No. 10, Boulevard des Capucines.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts biblication with to have rejected articles returned, they

The District Attorney.

The busiest man in New York at presnt is WILLIAM TRAVERS JEROME. He s getting his office in shape for the enertic, honest fulfilment of the functions elonging to it. He is investigating with characteristic vigor and thoroughcas the question of the responsibility or the disaster in the Harlem tunnel and at the same time, through an almost nconceivable concatenation of circumstances, he finds it his duty to lay down for the guidance of the new municipal dministration some fundamental principles of law in the larger sense.

There is only one lawful way to proide for Sunday opening of the saloons. That is the way which Mr. JEROME has dvocated ever since the subject first engaged his intelligent attention. It is o make Sunday opening, during the hours and to the extent that may seem dvisable in this city, a lawful thing in tself. This must be done by the amendment of existing law. It can be done by no other method.

Therefore, when the District Attorne inds floating in the atmosphere around the City Hall the idea that the same purpose can be accomplished legitimately by the deliberate and systematic failure of public officers to enforce the laws which they have sworn to enforce, no wonder that he proceeds to demolish that sophistry in his usual outspoken and fearless fashion.

'Liberal enforcement' of the law rot. 'Liberal enforcement' of a penal statute is non-enforcement." These propositions of the District Attorney are irrefragable verities. "Liberalization" of the law by non-enforcement is a policy doomed to failure, and loaded in advance with humiliation to those foolish enough to attempt it.

Mr. Squash's Bill.

The genial bucolic name of SQUASH. who is supposed to be a member of the yet-to-be-chosen Sixtieth Congress, is the appropriate name of the supposed introducer of a bill facetiously numbered " H. R. 4-11-44," which purports to be a bill " for the absorption by the General Government of all seed firms in the United States." It recites that since the amount of Government seed distributed has grown from half a million packets to 47,000,000, and the latter number is insufficient, the dole shall be increased to 100,000,000 at once; and that to help the Secretary of Agriculture to scatter plenty with a smiling hand he shall be authorized to purchase the stock, good will and fixtures of every seed house in the United States. If injunction " so that to the Government alone shall be intrusted the distribution of garden 'sass.' "

The Secretary is also empowered to buy any seed house that may here- being that inner conscience, that silent but ever after be established so " that there may present string which waits but the right note to be carried out the full intent of Congress, to wit, that the seed trade of the United States, as now partially conducted under private incentive, shall by Government be absolutely absorbed, and as a private business be destroyed now and forever, the Department of Agriculture being finally charged with the conduct of this particular line of commerce, as an initial step for more extended absorption of many other commercial and manufacturing pursuits."

The humorous seedsman who prepared this burlesque bill is unjust to the intent of Congress, which meant to fatter the farmers a little and make them think that they are the special care of the mildly paternal Government; meant also, perhaps, to give the rural Congressman a means of ingratiating himself with his plough-driving conatituents. But in spirit and logic the seedsman is right. There is no more reason why the Government should give away seeds than why it should give away selver watches, sitk umwellas or straw hats. The seed distribution is essentially bunco. The Congreaman thinks be is justing the wool over his constituent's eyes constituent thinks he is getting something for nothing. The private sendsmen kick. The country fuote the bill the seediess and unjustifiable presant to the tarmers. The Federal Government as banta thous is not a pleasing Appendicular lateral

But site the aresistant recrease; at jured by the favoresiment's incurries into the send launisme? There is a goneral impression that freverament grede are good to distribute rather than

Mittigery ment e jesting Muntetan.

The dog in the manger pointy which time stude the Manicinan Mattant Pencontine Union of this enty no well if not so favorably brown, has been followed by the Status of tickmids inated in therefore to among the law so as to ad that lakes among that there is no action of that lakes among the first product the speed of automobiles. great aussiss. Early last amounts the to increase considerably the fine for its as some theologic and the adopted out of a quarter between of Washington complained to the Secretary of the Surry that the meanings of the Martine Round scientific communities for just To this end of the cont. The many backer, which force we have comming the communities with state december forces of Dantas containly the meaning at the min pure or has need to be the state of th civilian quiel/laste, and proteoted against proposes to frame a toll which shall protheir theirs presented to do so A comfor abjection exists on the part of this fagter than seven sides as loop " will where amount no the employment of him only, hower or efficie limits " shall be piris lieges by members of the arms hande guilty of a sundersensor, punishable stationed near Washington

measters of the Government bunds \$50, and that, if the said fine is not paid simply may that mulitary anuscuman miscuraid. It is reported that outcoir of the limits communicates and frequency and frequence to make the same about underlied the civilian laborers, the latter the offender shall suffer imprisonment.

not be allowed to play at any civilian parade or entertainment, and ask the authorities to keep them from doing so.

Owing to the change in the Assistant Secretaryship of the Navy, action on the Musical Union's complaint was not taken until a few days ago, when the new Assistant Secretary, Mr. DARLING, may be introduced in the Legislature sent the following reply to the Secretary of the union:

" I have examined and considered the facts and have to say that unless in case of peculiar or exceptional circumstances, or unless otherwise pro hibited by law, I should be rejuctant to prohibit an employee of the Government from engaging in private labor or enterprise when that engagement does not interfere with the full performance of his duties under his employment by the Government. This case is not one of such peculiar or exceptional character; your request is therefore

The members of the army and the marine bands receive much less pay than civilian musicians, and so long as they do not underbid the latter, they certainly are entitled to accept nonmilitary engagements that do not interfere with their regular duties. Professional writers might as well object to military and naval men contributing articles to magazines, or engineers to officers of the Engineer Corps of the army being asked to advise on plans for municipal constructions, as civilian musicians object to military musicians playing for money when they are not performing military duty.

The New York branch of this musical labor union is said to have decided to start a strong agitation against the competition of army bands with civilian musicians," moved thereto by the fact that the managers of the Charleston Exposition have engaged one of the artillery bands to supply the official music at that great show. This band was hired, not because it offered to play at lower rates, but because it could play the music that the managers desired.

Aristophagy.

If titles were vegetables, what a feast JOSIAH OLDFIELD, M. A., D. C. L., M. C. R. S., L. R. C. P., would have. JOSIAH is a vegetarian and he loves to preach vegetarianism whether men will hear or whether they will forbear. In the Herald of the Golden Age, he brings forward a new word for his habit or cult. He finds "vegetarianism" too cold a name. So he produces " aristophagy," the eating of the best. He hopes for the coming of "our aristophagists-our eaters of the best, men and women who refuse to eat the common garbage of the undeveloped, and who in their earnest search for the ideals of life, refuse to be dragged down by contact with the food of shambles.'

It will be seen that aristophagy is matter of morality with Josiah. He would as soon commit murder as eat a veal cutlet; and if he had to choose between arson and a mutton chop, it burned. He is particularly anxious to commend aristophagy to the aris-

" I have no quarrel with the blind that they cannot see nor with the lame that they cannot walk, but I have a message to those who are of high ineage and noble blood, but who are bound down by chains of ignorance into a life that is not theirs. Men and women of the highest caste have been brought up to feed with the hyenas and wolves of life, and have been taught that their dietary was the dead bodies of the slaughtered. Unconscious of their divine origin and of their the seed houses decline to sell out, the kinship with the princely host whose food is purest Secretary shall proceed against them | manna, they live in Egyptian bondage and believe The Heralds of the Dawn, the Heralds of the Golden | we hope, respectable successor of RICHlike Mosss and Aason of old to sound the clarion ery, to wake the sleepers, to call into responsive respond to."

"Those who are aristophagists by birth and breeding," who feel themselves called to be deliverers, to be JOSHUAS, to be aristophagists," JOSIAH invites to join the Order of the Golden Age. We wish the order well, albeit cucumbers with onions may taste as well in the mouth of the meat eater as in that of the aristophagist. But JOSIAH OLDFIELD, M. A., &c., shouldn't be too the Hon. James D. RICHARDSON begged confident. The Megatherium was an aristophagist, wasn't he, and the Mammoth: and even that Samson of the Dinosaurs, the Thunder Lizard; and where are they now?

The Proposed Automobile Legislation.

The discussion which for some time has been going on in various parts of New York State concerning the speeding of automobiles upon the public high ways gains in extent and force daily For several months the residents of Long Island, particularly those of Naseau and Suffelk counties, have complained that the automobilists drive their machines through that region at a rate not only in violation of the law, but in complete disregard of the safety of other vehicles, and the spirit of opposition to the elleged recklusatess of chauffeurs has spread with marvelious rapidity throughout the State

The shief trouble, my those who seek to postrain the acorchers, is with the present Automobile low, in that it is altogether too lenion: What they ask. does a millionnine seorcher care for a tine of \$75, the maximum penalty preperions for the violation of the ordinance now in force? Housen, it is alleged that the that fine is aridon imposed even in of the situation about thenfugue which came of conviction and that in man tage Mr. and fast brought have to Kop instances, the lawiess are permitted to

The professor of the present according to be because I consider any and a present to the part of the part processing a construction of the part of the evolution, and to prevous that in defacilit of a performant of the fine time offender the offender time and to be august to be augus wide that any automobilist who travelsupon the first offence by a fine of \$25 There are no to be no claim that the and upon the secreted offence by a fine of

named, that is, presumably, in small sections of the State not under the immediate supervision of town or city authorities, the proposed law will permit a speed of twenty miles an hour.

In open opposition to the Cocks measure ure, and, also, to similar measures which are arrayed most of the automobile clubs of this State, headed by the Automobile Club of America. The members of these organizations declare that the law as it now stands, permitting them to run their machines at the rate of eight miles an hour in cities and fifteen miles an hour elsewhere, is sufficiently restrictive to assure safety to all concerned They do not deny that the present law has been, in some instances, ignored; but they aver that there is a strong sentiment in all their clubs against unlawful driving, and that the clubs are doing their best to prevent it The Automobile Club of America has announced that it will expel from that organization any member found guilty of exceeding the legal limit, and its officers have, from the first, been prominent among those desirous of safe and legitimate speed.

There is no doubt that the attack upon the chauffeurs is, to a certain extent, justifiable; but we believe that no good reason exists for lowering the limit of speed allowed by the present statute. To fix a limit of seven miles per hour in practically all parts of the State would be not only injudicious, but absurd. Such a restriction might accomplish the single purpose that is uppermost in the minds of a comparatively small number of our citizens, but it would be excessively severe upon the automobilists and, therefore, unnecessarily oppressive upon the motor vehicle manufacturers, through its detracting greatly from the pleasure of automobiling.

The law as it stands should not be altered as regards the speed limit therein provided, but if in order to compel its observation, a heavier fine is necessary we see no reason why it should not be amended in that direction.

The Immortal Government Plates.

A distinguished member of the House Representatives -not the Hon. JAMES D. RICHARDSON-sends us his copy of a circular letter that has been addressed to Congressmen by a publishing concern in New York:

" DEAR SIR: We beg to bring to your attention the fact that we are publishing an edition of ' Messages and Papers of the Presidents,' edited by the Hon. JAMES D. RICHARDSON of Tennessee, printed from plates made by the Government, which we some time ago purchased from the Bureau of National Literature and Art. " We can supply a single set of this in a substan-

tial binding, printed on good paper, at \$12.50, or will wholesale them in lots of ten at \$7.50 per set. " Our apology for burdening you with this purely business matter is that some public officials have would not be the chop that would be sought information as to the price and place of purchasing this set of books of which so much has been said and written, and while we do not expect you to serve us by bringing our proposition to the attention of your friends and constituents it has occurred to us that you might desire to favor them with the information should they seek it and we will hold ourselves in readiness to mee their requirements and serve them promptly.

" THE BARGAIN BOOK COMPANY. " NEW YORK, Jan. 3, 1902."

These gift plates, turned over to the Hon. JAMES D. RICHARDSON, at his earnest solicitation, by a foolish and too confiding Congress, are yet being worked for all they are worth by a modest and, Age, the Heralds of the Century of Promise, come ARDSON and BABCUS. The price of the Government document bearing RICH-ARDSON'S fraudulent copyright has gone down from a maximum of \$34 to a minimum of \$7.50-that is, if you take ten sets. The transitions of ownership have been as follows:

The United States of America. The Hon. JAMES D. RICHARDSON. JAMES S. BARCUS.

The Committee on Distribution." The Bureau of National Literature and Art." The Bargain Book Company.

What mutations! The new proprietors of the Government property which of Congress and then sent spinning down the highways and byways of the book trade are not open to censure or criticism. These apparently imperishable plates are their property, if they have bought them, and they have a legal right to sell this United States Government document unmolested so long as they avoid Barcusian methods.

But they ought not to annoy innocent and busy Congressmen with their circular appeals for help. All their business communications of this sort should he addressed to the Hon JAMES D. RICHARDSON, who is primarily responsible for the scandal that the mercenary use of "Messages and Papers of the Presidents ' has brought upon Congress and the country.

While still in ignorance of the character of Admiral ficht ay's second appeal to his superior officers to repudiate the findings of the Dancy Court of Inquiry and to rehear the case, it is proper to review an argument in first appear which was not dealt with in the suply of Copt Lauren and Mr. Harris

By the Hawk, which carried to Hear Admiral nemark the order to proceed with despoted to dissitings ofter matiefying him self that the dissillable ware set in fuegor, those resul the paper known as Metalia memorandum," a description Man: This was the memorandum

A grand labilities plant for comprehancement has columns area of the file ones, and association for the file of a column to the file of the There may wanting a force of pure on the recent becaused and the manufactor before the cases, good I wanted a new water tanters was being reacted these

They report the inland wires are repaired as fast as destroyed, while the railroad is intact. The Cuban forces in the San Juan Mountains control the railway between Clenfuegos and Trinidad, so nator Harlan's Testimeny as to Simot Cameron's Secret Mission. provisions cannot be sent between these places. I have Spanish charts of Clenfuegos and vicinity. Troops must be prepared for rain every day. No

From the Chicago Tribune of To-day. TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE Sir: Your editorial this morning upon Russia in the Civil War" brings to my mind The conclusion reached by the court statement made to me by the late Senator which first stated that the memorandum James Harlan of Iowa, which certainly is of was received simultaneously with the order nterest and possibly of importance. Senator Harlan was undoubtedly deep to find out if the Spaniards were in Cien-

n Mr. Lincoln's confidence. He was a vise Senator, a hard student, an orator and always a stanch supporter of the President. He was chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee in the campaign of 1864. He was nominated by Mr. Lincoln to be Secretary of the Department of the Interior just before the President's death. His daughter became the

wife of Mr. Robert Lincoln. Senator Harlan was from 1883 to 1886 residing Judge of the Court of Alabama Claims, the court which heard the individual claims against the Geneva Award. I was also a member of that court, and had great pleasure and profit from intimate association with a really great man who possessed a rich mint of valuable inside nformation touching the war period, and

who was not given to volubility. Judge Harlan told me that President Lincoln had told him that just before Gen. Simon Cameron went to Russia as American Minister in the early part of 1862 he was charged with a secret commission. He directed the Minister, upon the presentation of his letters to the Russian Chancellor in St. Petersburg, to say that President Lincoln asked that the Minister might have a personal and confidential interview with the Czar; that if this was accorded he should say to the Czar that the Presi dent was troubled about the possibility of interference by England or France in behalf of the Confederacy, and that if the friendship of Russia was such as to justify the monarch in conveying, confidentially, any intimation of his feelings and attitude in such a contingency the President would be grateful; that the interview was ccorded, the message was delivered and the answer was cordial and in about these

words: "The friendship of Russia for the United States has long continued, and is such as to justify the President's request. The eply of Russia is ready. You will convey to Mr. Lincoln my personal regards, and say that the danger of interference by any European nation is exceedingly remote, but in that improbable contingency, or upon the appearance of real danger of it, the friendship of Russia for the United States will be made known in a decisive manner, which no other nation will be able

This shows beyond a doubt that Mr. lincoln, at least, had some very definite knowledge of the sealed orders which soon after led the Russian fleet to cast anchor off Sandy Hook and wait there through the months of the following summer.

Very likely these facts have been published heretofore, although I don't remember seeing them in print. In any event, they may interest you and may possibly prove of public interest. A. S. DRAPER. President's Office, University of Illinois. CHAMPAIGN, Ill., Jan. 7.

COMMERCE IN COLLEGE. Practical Work in the Commercial Course

of Chicago University. with alarm, but not with despair. "Let The University of Chicago is one of our no man assume that I view my country's stitutions of higher learning that is giving much attention to commercial studies. ening destiny was only a pole wherewith Among other universities that have esto stir up the English language. We can tablished special schools of commerce commercial courses are the Universities California, Michigan, Pennsylvania, "I sound the warning to wake her vigils that and the City of New York. Most of them as yet have done little more than to make a beginning; but all expect in the near future to complete their equipment along this line. The University of Wisconsin has already ment by GEORGE III. to us as we are inflicting on a completely rounded out four years' course The English language looks flushed and with graduata attachments for those who foars a threatening destiny. Wreathed in desire it.

the more theoretical work of the classroom is being supplemented this winter with talks accommodating and harmonious Demo- from those who have themselves acquired reputation as practical men of affairs. Every few days some man of success and distinction in his line talks to the students in their large lecture hall on the phase of Democrat," said Col. Phelps, " and will business with which he is specially ac-not declare myself until the platform has quainted. Most of these lecturers are prom-

quainted. Most of these lecturers are prominent men of Chicago.

Among those who are speaking on railroads, for example, are Mr. Abbot, former President of the Wisconsin Railroad, who treats railroad floance, Mr. Paul Morton, Second Vice-President of the Santa Fe Railroad on "Railway Problems" and Mr. A. W. Sullivan of the Illinois Central, on "Railroad Management and Operation." A course of nine lectures on modern industries are included in the programme. Mr. course of nine lectures on modern industries are included in the programme. Mr. F. H. Head treats the "Steel Industy" and Secretary North of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers will deliver three lectures on the "Textile Industries" "The Methods of Banking" is the subject of Pracident Eckels of the Compensation of President Eckels of the Commercial National Bank. A series of lectures on the technic of commerce includes such subjects as "The Ntock Exchange," "In-vestments," "The Foreign Exchange" and

These practical views from leaders in is world of business and finance are certain be an important addition to the throretical instruction received in the class-

ment. The last straw of that labor, how ever, is removed by the application of While commercial instruction is becompowdered fish hone to the parchment ing an important feature in many high and grammar schools the great need is teachers who have the requisite training to be efficient. The best educators in the where the President is to eign his name Even yet, however, the job before the Chief Executive is not easy. The cost of to be efficient. The best educators in the country any that the training needed by a commercial teacher cannot be excured outside of the colleges and universities. One of the leading purposes of the university commercial courses how established is to train teachers to give instruction in the commercial course of the lower grade schools. It is fortunate that during the past two years several of our universities have made special provision for this branch of instruction. the commissions is not a negligible quantity, either Each of them costs to cents. so that the batch sent in on Monday represents more than \$000. To this must be added the cost of those which are specied in engrossing, and the labor of the sogrousing clerk who filled them out: the total will he very close to a round thousand dollars,

THE STEELT OF THE STREETS. PRIDITE ASSISTE HE ALL

mir Beitere Mail Sans & Will für Morar Plant

Jundar Pland or Pendicter. for Molgest Built of Cambridge Courses. sity England, including preferring at the humble University predicted the actions of a glacial period to the status future schiols will be in its nature women than famine flood or postilence. The house shorts of low will advance from the polar regions has said ploughing through the for houseway of thousands of years. A case these, he said the entire forthers. Meaninghors may covered with me of green this prime and at another ported three, hald significant a "grainst and manather segments;"

Find Bull square of Apolises margining

that the article should have accritical to see sees pleas so First these tening carried seven telling to gardened active telling to gardened active telling to gardened active telling to gardened active telling transported from the gardened of the tennant active telling to another agents. The course of the telling to a senting sate to the course of the telling to a senting sate to the course to be plausets displayed and brings to the auto telling the programming of the earth on the auto telling that the telling telling telling the telling tel Francish Dispute Forming Sance The discretingsmanger of some problem school eachers in Namara are beyond ordinary conveyis the remain the good to per most of the course breat on extense and if per soul to wante When it course about, as it charactery astronomical period of so, see years or store, the nutritier is very short and the winter very long, and the ice age results.

THE CZAR'S MESSAGE TO LINCOLN WANTED TO BE SLAVES AGAIN. Return of John S. Brasfield's Negroes to Missouri After the War.

"I read an article in THE SUN a few days ago to the effect that the drift of negroes in several of the border States is to the South," said a man who formerly lived in what was once a slave State. "It is not strange to me that this is so. I have known

stranger things. "At the time of the Emancipation Proclamation John S. Brasfield, a man of wealth and social position, was living on his farm in Platte county, Mo. He was a typical Southern gentleman. He was the popular man in Platte county and by reason of his prominence in Masonic affairs he was most favorably known throughout his State.

"He owned about twenty-five as likely negroes as you could scare up in a week's travel. They were the special care of their owner and his wife.

"There were always several house ser vants. These were trained by 'Aunt Kate' Brasfield, as she was called by everybody in the county. The others negroes lived in cabins scattered about the farm. "Many a time in the bleak nights of winter John Brasfield and his wife went

out to the cabins to see that the occupants were properly cared for. The negroes were always allowed to share in the which they helped to cultivate, and were also permitted to market produce in Platte City, the county seat.

The money obtained from such sales was taken back to the farm and given to Miss Kate, who kept a little account for each

depositor, thereby becoming the negroes banker. She was always ready to case their demands, but never permitted a depositor to withdraw the nestegg.

"Platte county bordered the Missouri county bordered the Missouri River on the west.

Kansas. It was only a short distance from the Brasfield farm to the Land of Refuge.

"When the Emancipation Proclamation
was issued Brasfield lined up his colony of negroes and explained to them that they were free. He gave them the shorter were free. He gave them the choice of remaining and sharing by their labor in the profits of the farm or of going out for them

The older darkies elected to as they had been subject to Mas' John and Mis' Kate. The younger ones concluded to go to Kansas, not because they were anxious but because they believed it would be to the interest of their old master.

"The parting was a day of lamentation on the old farm. The partness bound for

The parting was a day of lamentation on the old farm. The negroes bound for Kansas filed down the big bluegrass pasture in front of the house and said good-by to their master, missus and the negroes who remained on the farm. The latter were scattered along the road to the gate, and as the departing slaves passed out they sang old plantation songs.

"I have forgotten how long the darkies who went to Kansas remained there, but one by one they returned and asked permission to come back, not as laborers merely, but he was the come back, not as laborers the was

but as slaves, as they were before the war. Brasfield explained to them that they could not return to slavery.

"They were loth to understand it, but finally accepted the offer to work on wages

and shares. They remained on the farm until Mis' Kate's death, which occurrence caused a breaking up of the old place. It is the only instance to my knowledge in which negroes returned from freedom in Kansas and asked to be restored to

BLACK SQUIRREL IN THE PARK. Rare Specimen and Wary-City Feeding All the Squirrels.

A black squirrel, which is considered a very rare freak of nature, has been discovered in Central Park and keepers from the menagerie and park policemen have been making futile efforts for the last few days to capture it. It is about the size of the gray squirrel, but has long, jet black fur. It was last seen near the Ramble. Director Smith of the menagerie sent two keepers with a net and some peanuts to try to capture the little animal to put it on exhibition, but it was very wary and could not be caught. It is full grown and was first seen in the Park a few days ago. Mr. Smith said yesterday that he last heard of a black squirrel about here five years ago, when one appeared in Mount Morris Park and eluded efforts to capture it. The squirrel was killed after it had bitten several chil-

Employees of the Park Department were In the colleges of commerce and admin-istration of the University of Chicago, peanuts about Central Park where the several hundred red and gray squirrels could get them for food. It was the first time in the Park's history that the city had provided food for the little animals suggestion was made by President Willcox of the Park Board. Peanuts were selected because on account of their light weight they would remain on top of the snow

CONFERENCE THANKS DAVIS. Chairman of Our Delegation Leaves the City of Mexico.

CITY OF MEXICO, Jan. 10 - At the close of to-day's session of the Pan-American Congress former Senator Davis, chairman of the United States delegation, announced he would return to the States to-night. He said enough had been accomplished to assure the world that much good would come from the conference. "Among the achievements of this conference," he said, "is a plan of arbitration that has been substantially agreed upon and that will be of great value to all the republics. This is a long step toward preserving the peace and settling disputes between the American republics. The adoption of The Hague treaty was a step in advance. Permit me to say that if you accept this opportunity to adopt The Hague articles you will be making the greatest and best move you can

make toward a peaceful settlement of all disputed questions, thus following the en-lightened evilized nations of the world. When the Senator finished Sefor Carpo of Ecuador moved a vote of thanks for Mr. Davis's interest in the work Several speeches appreciative of his personality and work were made, and the motion was adopted by acclamation. A committee was appointed to escort him to the train

Fugincers' Paint Alarms. From the Natt Lake Hern'd When a man a setting in an engine sub, inor

ing up the track with a constant watch ince danger a harder in his rind, and an engineer. Things constitues how different from what they really say that it expecially true rather tangent and a expecially represented the first affected. a floring on old requires who was the man the most to be should need to the stand of the stand of and the stand of an arms of the stand of an arms of the stand o wills they belonged the state of the parties of the

THE TUNNEL COLLISION.

Suggestions and Opinions of Sun Readers on the Recent Accident.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Anent the apparently needless and awful loss of the Harlem tunnel wreck, has it occurred to engineer, "It was up to me to make up lost has more behind it than at first appears?

Upon pretty good authority it is asserted that railroad engineers are "docked" 'marked against" when they come in behind the schedule

Of course, the rules of the company are all right: but is it fair to the engineer who has mendous trust reposed in him, to have that n order that "no kick" shall be coming? A man who has been in practical railroad business was stalled last night in the tunnel at Seventy-second street. He got out of the train and walked the track, and he says that

train and walked the track, and he says that even walking he could hardly see the red light forty feet away!

But the engineer is in a swiftly moving cab; he must not only keep his eyes en any signal, but he must also look after his gauge-cock. In going through the tunnel it is almost impossible to know whether the pet cock or the gauge shows water or steam unless it is looked at, and in that one instant of looking the danger point may be passed.

But the engineer had a "distant" warning. Remembering what has been said above, how natural for him to get as close to the "home" signal as possible, in order to save time.

how natural for him to get as close to the "home" signal as possible, in order to save time.

All of this hinges on the "personal equation." Taking away the tunnel will avail nothing if signals are inadequate. Of course electricity will eliminate smoke; but how about fog? On a western road there is a device whereby the engineer's cab is lighted red as soon as a danger zone is entered. The tunnel, if it must remain, could be lighted every fifty feet with a duplicate line of arc lights—red to show occupied block, white a free block.

In addition to the above a bell could be made to ring in the engineer's cab when a danger zone is entered. A device has also been tried whereby the steam is shut off outside the cab by a danger lever.

To those of us who care more for life and limb than for the saving of a few moments of time, it seems that all possible, practicable devices (no matter what they cost in expense and time consumed) should be applied. Is it better we should reach our offices a few minutes shead, or leave a few mained and dead behind?

GEORGE MARTIN HUSS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9. NEW YORK, Jan. 9.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir! As an old reader of your paper and an old commuter on the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad. I would like to know why that road is permitted to run cars into New York State, with oil lamps in their coaches, and if they have authority from the New State Railroad Commissioners, why they give it when they are appointed to look out for the interest of the travelling public and to see that the laws are carried out by the

to see that the laws are carried out by the railroads?

If I am not mistaken I think after a rearend collision (some years ago) a law was passed prohibiting the use of oil lamps, yet the New Haven road has been using them on some of their cars ever since and I have noticed them on the 6:04 and 6:32 P. M. trains out of the Grand Central station and on some of the local trains in the morning.

It looks somewhat as though the Railroad Commission were for the benefit of the railroads and not the people—what do you think? Springfield, Mass., Jan. 9. Travellers. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I was

on a Third Avenue cable car which ran into and overturned an immense beer wagon, shooting the two or three men on it some distance to the pavement. The gripman was looking straight at it, had nothing to do but o stop the car and it was plain long before it was necessary to apply the brake that the inwieldy truck could not get out of the way. It was evident to me that the gripman was suffering from a momentary but complete suspension of his faculties. When within a few feet of the truck he seemed to gather himself together and frantically applied the I do not believe there is a man living who

I do not believe there is a man living wards not at times liable to this suspension of faculties. I should not call this lack of presence of mind, which as generally used means doing promptly the right thing when suddenly confronted with a situation, but it was simply the mometary inability to act at all in the simplest possible situation. Perhaps this may account for the tunnel accident.

Kingston, Jan. 9.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In view of the late railroad horror, permit me, an old railroad man, to ask publicity through your columns for a suggestion by means new to railroad men. Visual signals are under most circumstances

sufficient, but at particularly dangerous spots such visual signals should be supplemented ctual material obstacles. The ary" signal may well be left as it is, but the "stop" or "danger" signal, in addition to its visible light or semaphore, should be provided with an extension arm which when set at danger, projects almost to centre line of track This arm is of flexible steel like a long saw

blade or similar construction and project so far that, should the engine pass, it strikes in succession headlight, stack, box, steam-dome and cab, making a noise impossible of being mistaken or unnoticed

box. steam-dome and cab, making a hosimpossible of being mistaken or unnoticed.
It is set at such a height that it will not strike
the cab or car windows and injure passen,
gers whose arms or heads might happen
to profrude.

Such a warning instinctively and instantly brings the engineer's hand to the emergency brake. I venture to assert that were
an engineer all but enconscious, or mentaity unbalanced at the moment, the effect
of long training is such that a succession of
such sounds would cause him to apply the
emergency brake when incapable of conscious mental effort.

Such signals are in use in protecting draw
bridges all over the country, and a similar
mechanical device for warning freight brake
men on top of cars of the approach of bridgeand tunnels is to be seen on all roads. The
only objection to the engine signals of this
style, is the cost of repairs when carelessly
or forgetfully passed. Further, and as an
old fallroad man, permit me to assire
you and the public that there are no brighter,
brainier, better informed man in any tusiness
than those who control the mechanics
departments of our railroads, and if they
were permitted to do so no valuable device
or suggestion, whatever its cost wend fall
of adoption. Pursued as they are, and their
value gauged. By the relative proportion
between aperating expenses and carnings
their to the far from enviable.

New York, Jan 9.

Repeter L. Kilke

The Welcome and the Godspred. To the fiction or The Non-our. I am laterested

In the discussion is your columns of the proper reading of a question from Pope, respecting the science and the goldspeed squery. Should it be goldspeed at goodspeed's extended to outgoing and nomining guide.

I do not recall the contest wherein Pope nase the

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